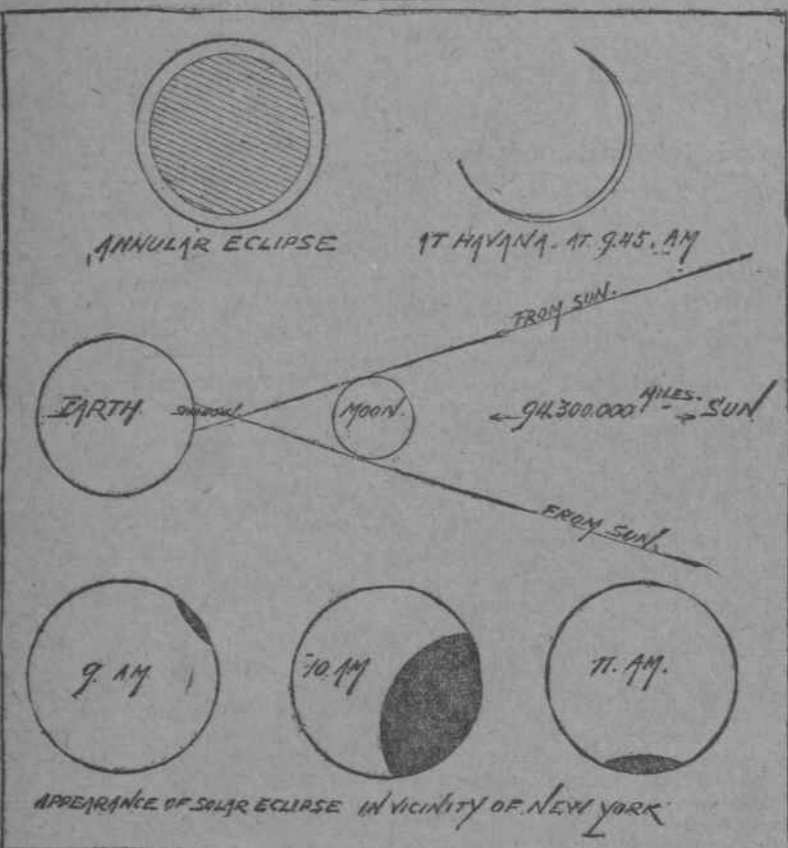


TO-MORROW'S SUN ECLIPSE.

Professor R. W. Prentiss, of Rutgers College, Describes the Phenomenon for Journal Readers---It Will Be a Partial Obscuration.



A PARTIAL eclipse of the sun will occur on Thursday morning, July 29, which will be visible throughout the United States. The phases will be presented with more or less approximation, depending upon the place of observation, in accordance with the following programme, calculated in Eastern standard time for the vicinity of New York City:

Eclipse begins..... 8:50 a. m.
Middle of eclipse (greatest obscuration)..... 10:50 a. m.
Eclipse ends..... 11:15 a. m.

Extent of obscuration, about five digits—that is, about five-twelfths of the sun's diameter will be covered by the moon at the moment of greatest eclipse. Although the eclipse as seen here will probably be destitute of any novel features from a scientific point of view, nothing short of a total eclipse being deemed worthy the studious attention of an astronomer, unusual popular interest attaches to it because it is the last solar eclipse visible in this country before May 27, 1900, and also because in Mexico and in the northern part of the West Indies it presents a spectacle of unusual singularity and beauty. The only apparatus needed for its comfortable observation is a piece of dark green or neutral-tinted glass to shield the eyes from the dazzling rays of the sun. Two strips of plain smoked glass three inches wide and five inches long (so that both eyes may be used), with the blackened surfaces toward each other and bound together by an elastic band, will answer every purpose.

Armed with this elaborate instrument and favored with clear skies, the observer may note about 9 o'clock a small black indentation on the upper right hand side of the sun. This will gradually increase in size until 10 o'clock, when nearly one side of the sun will be darkened, the edge of the shadow not quite reaching the centre. This marks the time of greatest eclipse or obscuration in the latitude of New York. The phases will then recur in the reverse order, the moon passing out of sight at last contact by fifteen minutes past 11. The eclipse is of course due to the fact that the moon in the course of its monthly revolution comes between our planet and the sun, so that its shadow is projected on the earth. The eclipse is visible throughout all regions visited by this shadow.

On Thursday morning the shadow of the moon careering through the empty void of external space encounters the earth at 8 a. m. and falls in an oval spot upon the Pacific Ocean off the western coast of Mexico. Spreading from this point it extends north as far as the fifty-sixth parallel of north latitude and south to the twentieth parallel of south latitude. Cutting this broad swath, so to say, of about five thousand miles in width, it sweeps in an easterly direction across North and South America, and then taking a southeasterly course leaves the earth about 2 p. m. at a point in the Southern Atlantic Ocean over 8,000 miles from the starting point. During these six hours it has partially obscured about one-fifth of the surface of the earth. The axis or central portion of the shadow, known as the path of annulus, travels from Tecapan, in Mexico, across the Gulf, skirting the northern coasts of the West Indies and finally leaving the continent at Cape St. Roque. All places on this belt behold the sun at the middle of the eclipse as an extremely slender ring of brilliant sunlight forming a golden frame for the dark globe of the moon. At these places the eclipse is annular. At all other places within the shadow the phenomenon is a more or less one-sided affair, only one side or edge of the sun's disk being obscured.

It may not be devoid of interest to consider briefly the circumstances which give rise to an annular rather than to a total eclipse. It is a curious fact that although the sun's diameter is four hundred times as large as that of the moon, their disks as viewed from the earth appear to be of the same size. This is effected by the singular but by no means necessary coincidence that the distance of the sun bears the same ratio to the distance of the moon as the diameter of the sun does to the diameter of the moon. This ratio is approximately 400.

Although the disks appear to be the same, the ever varying distance of the moon from the earth, now nearer, now further away, effects a corresponding change in its apparent diameter, so that it is sometimes larger, at other times smaller, than the sun.

If the moon is near to the earth its disk is large enough to cover the sun, and a total eclipse results at those places along the track of the umbral or inner shadow. If, on the other hand, as is the case in the present eclipse, the moon happens to be further away from the earth than its average distance, its face appears smaller than that of the sun. The result is that the moon is not large enough to cover the sun, and a partial eclipse takes place, one-sided in regions off the central line of shadow and ring-shaped or annular in places on the central line.

For example, the axis of the shadow passes about twenty miles north of Havana. An observer of the eclipse at this place at 9:45 sees the moon centrally projected upon the sun, but not quite hiding it from view, leaving a bright ring of light about one one-hundredth of its diameter in width. At Havana itself the moon will be projected a little further up in the sky, and the only part of the sun visible at 9:45 will be a thin, delicate crescent of light somewhat longer than a semicircle. This will slowly increase in breadth until finally, toward noon the sun will really, and let us hope prophetically, shine again in unobscured splendor on the now desolated country of Cuba.

During this eclipse the moon, a globe 2,163 miles in diameter, is 240,000 miles from the earth, while the sun, a vast luminary 865,400 miles in diameter, is 94,000,000 miles away. The apex of the dense shadow within which the sun would be totally obscured falls short of the earth by about 2,500 miles. The average velocity of the shadow of the moon as it drifts across the earth, like the shadow of a summer cloud, is about twenty-four times that of a fast express train.

The next total eclipse of the sun will take place January 21, 1898, the path of totality extending across Central Africa and India. Although the duration of totality is only two minutes, extensive preparations are being made for its proper observation. It will be invisible here. The next eclipse of the sun visible in the United States will occur May 27, 1900, and will be total, the line of totality reaching from Louisiana to Virginia; duration of totality, two minutes. It will therefore be seen that astronomers have only four minutes during the rest of this century in which the sun may be studied by direct observation.

R. W. PRENTISS,
Professor of Astronomy, Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.

WERE CHASED BY A BULL.

How Three Young Hunters Escaped from the Animal by Swimming Across a Pond.

It was a thrilling experience that three Plainfield, N. J., young men related on their return from a hunting expedition Monday night, after having spent the day in the wooded land near Short Hills, in quest of game. They were Roy T. Phillips, Albert Finch and Walter Long, the last named a well-known athlete in the New Jersey Intercollegiate Athletic Association. It was late in the afternoon when the three young men started for home after a hard day's journey, and to cut the return trip as short as possible they were crossing farm fields. Suddenly Long yelled to his companions:

"Look out! There comes a bull. Run for your lives!"

The other boys glanced around and were terrified at seeing a black bull of monstrous size galloping toward them, bellowing and snorting at very leap. One side of the field is skirted by a pond, and the hunters started as fast as their feet would carry them toward that point. They reached the bank of the pond and, turning, noticed that the bull was still in pursuit. Long was the first to take in the situation and, throwing down his Winchester rifle, he plunged into the water and waded out to what he thought was a safe distance. Phillips and Finch followed their leader and also waded out into the pond. The animal finally reached the shore, stopped short at the brink of the pond, tossed his head in a threatening manner, emitted a bellow that made the three quake, and then started out into the water.

The three young men then struck out for the other side with might and main. They were loaded down with heavy cartridge belts and their clothes, but all are good swimmers, and they reached the opposite shore in safety. In the meantime the bull had waded out into three feet of water and stood there pawing in a terrifying way. The animal finally reached the shore, tossed his head in a threatening manner, emitted a bellow that made the three quake, and then started out into the water.

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LOOKMAN NEWMAN IS THIS PUPPY DOG OR SEAL?

But for His Quick Action Flippers and Head of Amphibian, Hind Legs of Canine Type.

GATE CLOSED IN TIME. MOTHER A COACH DOG.

He Kept a Sixty-Mile Level of the Erie Canal from Flowing Into the Town.

Syracuse, N. Y., July 27.—Syracuse had a narrow escape yesterday from being submerged by the waters of the sixty mile level of the Erie Canal. It was saved by the presence of mind of Lookman Newman at Lock No. 47, which is the last one in the eastern part of the city. At this point on the south side of the canal



are double locks, while the north side has a single one.

The paddle gate of the north lock that allows the water to flow in from the sixty mile level has been in bad order, and it has been noticed that pieces of wood have been floating out from it. Saturday night

Saturday night Lookman Newman saw the peril and knew that if the west gate would hold full he could close the east gate all would be safe. Instead of running away, he sprang to the east gate and by a superhuman effort succeeded in closing it. But for his cool head there would have been a deluge in Syracuse.

Fortunately the gate at the other end of the lock held until a bulkhead was put in to strengthen it. Thus the danger was temporarily averted. While two boats were passing through yesterday the double lock of the centre gates collapsed with a crash. The east gate of the lock was open so that the whole volume of the sixty mile level could rush in, and there was nothing but the west gate to hold it back from pouring into the city.

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ture, and the pup has no great muscular control over them.

When crawling upon the floor it pushes its body forward with the hind legs, which are normally developed, and wags its head from side to side, like a seal.

Even the pup's voice resembles the cry of a seal.

Dr. Weston made an examination of the puppy yesterday and detected the presence of seal-like bones of the bones of elementary dog-like, which apparently were properly jointed at the shoulders.

The father of Nellie's puppies is a cross-bred dog belonging to Edward McCann, of No. 422 First avenue.

Nellie, the mother, was saved from an awful fate to present a problem for the puzzling of scientists. Seven years ago she was sent with a dozen other dogs from the city pound to the Carnegie laboratory to be vivisectioned in the interests of science. McGovern, who was employed at the laboratory at the time, took a fancy to the intelligent animal and saved her from the surgeon's scalpel by taking her home with him.

Nellie has given birth to thirty-one puppies since McGovern owned her, and all the rest have been of normal appearance.

"LA BELLE ROSA" FINED.

The Dancer Who Ape'd "Little Egypt" in a Brooklyn Hall Must Pay \$150 for It or Stay in Jail.

Police Justice Brenner, of the Adams Street Police Court, Brooklyn, yesterday fined "La Belle Rosa" \$150 for her part in the lively dance which occurred in Max Hartman's Hotel, Ninth avenue and Fifteenth street, South Brooklyn, a week ago. Two other women and thirty-five men were caught in the raid, and the spectators paid \$5 each next morning for their fun. The two other women were discharged.

"La Belle Rosa's" case was adjourned until yesterday. She finally pleaded guilty. John Meyer also admitted that he got up the show. He was also fined \$150. Meyer and

Bedford Avenue Police Station and begged protection for his property.

Several policemen were sent to the scene to disperse the crowd. Matters were brought to the attention of the jeweller he decided to test his yellow-diamonds. He was through the process of charcoal first and acid next.

So far, he said last night, "I've found only yellow mud. I've got to keep on, and my belief is that it will remain yellow mud." The Italians still believed last night they had struck "pay dirt."

WARRING HUSBAND FELLE.

His Wife's Brother Knocked Him Down with a Sea Shell.

Thomas Kerns, forty-two years old, a carpenter, of No. 677 Park avenue, Williamsburg, on his return from work last night, had a bitter quarrel with his wife, Bridget. She claims he threatened to kill her. She screamed for her brother James McManus, who boarded on the floor above. McManus came downstairs and picked up a sea shell without Kerns seeing him.

Just as Kerns was about to strike his wife, according to her story, McManus flung the shell at his brother-in-law. It struck Kerns on the back of his head and he fell backward to the floor insensible. Blood flowed from a deep wound, and both Mrs. Kerns and McManus were under the impression that Kerns was fatally hurt. A call was sent for an ambulance. Pending its arrival, Policeman Butler appeared and detained McManus until the ambulance surgeon arrived. Surgeon O'Donnell, of the Homeopathic Hospital, found that Kerns had received a deep scalp wound. When the policeman asked Kerns if he wanted to have his brother-in-law arrested, he replied in the negative, and said he would have justice in his own way.

COMPOSER C. H. MARCY DEAD

The Well Known Musician Expires Suddenly in His Apartments.

Professor Charles Henry Marcy, the well known musician and composer, was found dead in his room at No. 1231 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn, yesterday morning. He was in excellent spirits and perfect health when he retired the night before. It is thought he was suddenly attacked while taking a bath, as the bath tub was half full of water. His body was partially reclining on the bed.

Marcy lived with a cousin, Oscar C. Hutton, in the flat on Bedford avenue. Mr. Hutton thought his relative was sleeping longer than usual yesterday and went to wake him, but found him dead. The dead man's mother lives in Riverhead, L. I., and she was notified of his death.

NEW KLONDYKE IS WILLIAMSBURG.

Practical Jokers Cause a Big Crowd of "Prospectors" to Appear.

WANTED TO STAKE CLAIMS

Waggish Policemen Started the Rumor That Italians Had Struck "Pay Dirt."

A joke concocted by two policemen attached to the Bedford avenue station, Williamsburg, gave rise to a report all over that part of Brooklyn yesterday, that a gold mine had been discovered at North Eighth and Reeling streets. Italian laborers are excavating for a cellar in that neighborhood, which is not very far from where Bushwick creek was recently filled in. That part of the city is all what is called made ground. In other words, the ground was filled in years ago, when all around were meadows.

The jokers had occasion to pass the excavation on Monday and noticed the yellow dirt which the Italians were throwing out. They took Policeman O'Malley into their confidence and told him that the Italians were ignorant of the fact that they were delving among gold.

O'Malley secured a large chunk of the yellow earth, and after a critical examination, he was led to believe that perhaps there might be gold in it. He took the dirt to Jeweler McNeil at Grand and Rodney street, and told him to examine it. McNeil said he would do it as his leisure.

Early yesterday morning when the Italians went to work they were told that they were digging in gold. Instantly the most intense excitement prevailed. All the earth which had any semblance of containing quartz was piled to one side and a jealous watch kept over it. Nobody was allowed to approach.

It didn't take long for the story to spread that gold had been discovered in Williamsburg. Scores of would-be prospectors with pickaxes and shovels hurried to the place, ready to stake claims where there was "pay dirt." They were met by the Italians, who ordered them back. Still the digging went on, and in the meantime hundreds of persons had been attracted to the place. The crowd finally became so great that Joseph Waulich, of No. 232 North Eighth street, thought the mob would tear down his house in their desire to become rich in Williamsburg gold. He ran to the



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